

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 L-03 FRB-03

OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02 USIA-06 AGRE-00 AID-05

CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02

SIL-01 STR-04 TRSE-00 CEA-01 /081 W

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6858

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNCTAD, ETRD, EEWT

SUBJECT: UNCTAD: NATURAL RUBBER PRODUCERS REQUESTED CONSULTATIONS

REF: (A) GENEVA 2472 (B) BRUSSELS 2756

1. ANRPC GROUP NOW FEELS IT WOULD BE MORE ADVANTAGEOUS TO HOLD PROPOSED CONSULTATIONS WITH CONSUMERS AT UNSPECIFIED TIME FOLLOWING SECOND PREPARATORY CONFERENCE ON RUBBER (SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 2-10) RATHER THAN PRIOR TO CONFERENCE AS ORIGINALLY REQUESTED IN REFTEL (A). PRODUCERS APPARENTLY CONCLUDED CONSULTATIONS WOULD BE MORE PRODUCTIVE ONCE THEY HAVE REACTION TO PROPOSAL THEY INTEND TO TABLE AT JUNE PREPARATORY.

2. PRODUCERS PLAN TO MEET IN GENEVA MAY 31 AND JUNE 1

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PRECEDING WORKING GROUP MEETINGS OF JUNE 2-3. ACCORDING TO UNCTAD STAFFER WORKING WITH PRODUCERS (KRISHNAN) PRODUCERS' PROPOSAL WILL DIFFER VERY LITTLE FROM PREVIOUS PROPOSALS. PRESUMABLY THIS WOULD INCLUDE RELIANCE ON A BUFFER STOCK BUT SINCE BS MIGHT BY ITSELF HAVE TO BE VERY LARGE TO PROTECT FLOOR, SOME FORM OF SUPPLY MANAGEMENT COULD BE IMPLEMENTED AFTER SPECIFIED

STOCK LEVELS ARE REACHED. PRIMARY OBJECTIVE DURING PREPARATORY WILL BE TO OBTAIN AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE FROM CONSUMERS THAT PRICES SHOULD BE STABILIZED WITH THE DECISION ON HOW STABILIZATION IS TO BE ACHIEVED WORKED OUT IN CONSULTATIONS AND SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS. THEY FORESEE A THIRD MEETING AT EXPERTS LEVEL FOLLOWED BY A NEGOTIATING CONFERENCE.

3. EC BRUSSELS MAY WISH TO CONTACT COMMISSION OFFICIALS WORKING ON RUBBER TO DEVELOP FURTHER BACKGROUND AS SECRETARIAT FEELS THEY ARE IN CLOSEST CONTACT WITH PRODUCERS. KUALA LUMPUR MAY ALSO BE ABLE TO PROVIDE FURTHER INSIGHTS INTO MOTIVATION BEHIND POSTPONEMENT OF CONSULTATIONS. SORENSON

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